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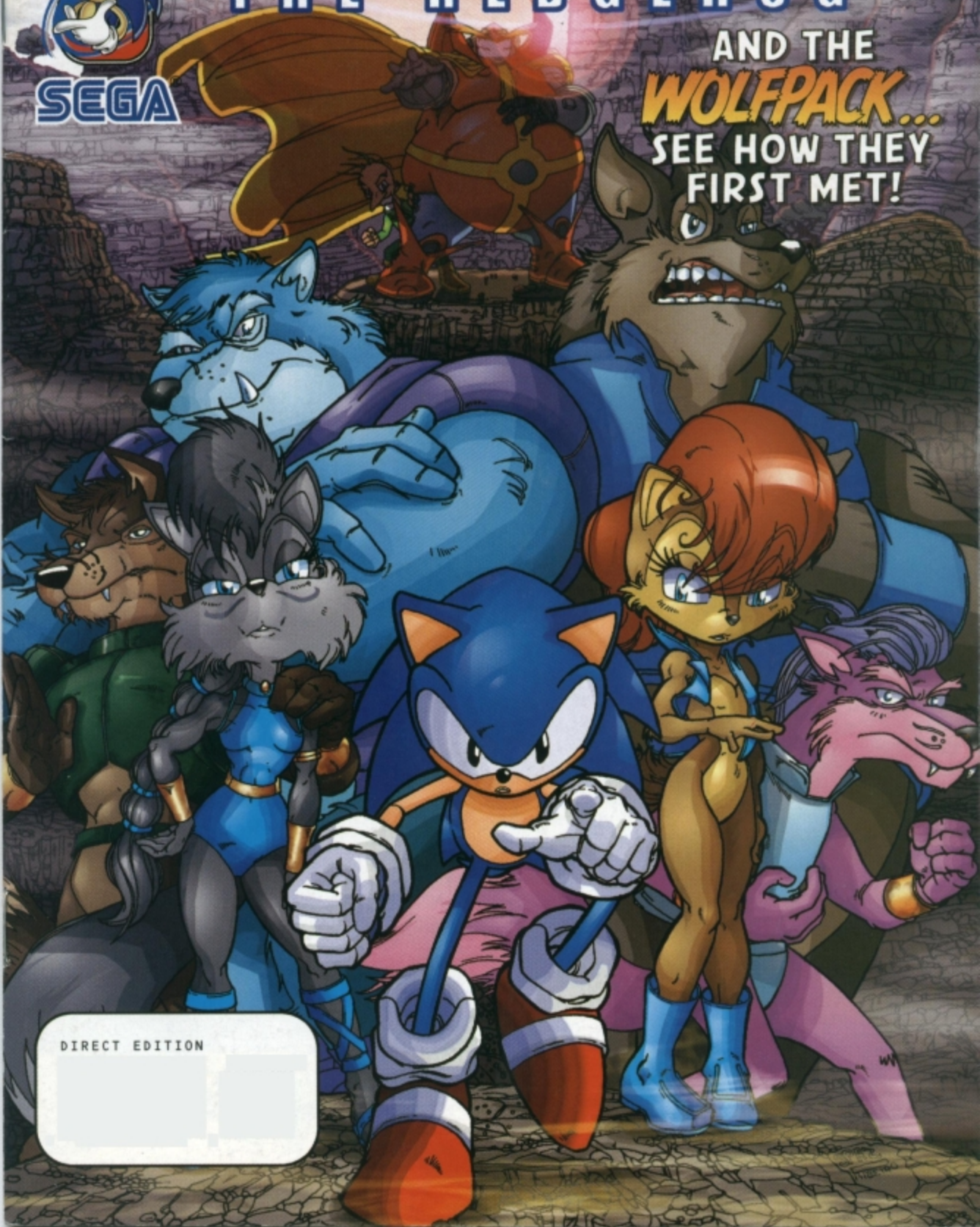
THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

AND THE
WOLFPACK...
SEE HOW THEY
FIRST MET!



DIRECT EDITION

THE FOLLOWING STORY IS ADAPTED FROM
AN ANIMATED EPISODE OF

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

BY J. OLIVIERO, WITH HELP BY
K. BOLLEAS AND M. HANCO

SPECIAL THANKS GO TO
JOSH AND AMES DAY FOR
THEIR ANIMATED CLOWNS

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DEEP IN THE CAVERNS OF THE GREAT CANYON RANGE, WE FIND OUR HEROES DEEP IN EXPLORATION--

--WHEN SUDDENLY THE CAVERN ENTRANCE CLOSES UP!

TRAPPED IN UNCERTAINTY, PRINCESS SALLY ACORN, ANTOINE D'COULETTE AND THE GREATEST AND FASTEST OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, **SONIC** ARE NOW SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING ELSE--

FROM THE FREEDOM FIGHTER FILES:

CRY OF THE WOLF

-- A WAY OUT!

LET'S JOIN THEM IN THEIR SEARCH...

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TOO BAD DULCY
COULDN'T COME IN WITH US.
SHE COULD HAVE MELTED THE
ROCK ENTRANCE WITH HER
FIRERY BREATH. AT LEAST
WE GOT SOME LIGHT.

YEAH, WELL, SHE SAID SHE
WAS CLAUSTROPHOBIC.

CLOSETS-
WHAT'S ITS?

YOU
KNOW, AFRAID
OF BEING
IN SMALL,
CONFINED
SPACES.

Oh.

CHILL, HERE, SAL.
I'LL CHECK AHEAD.

SONIC, WAIT!
WE SHOULDN'T
SPLIT UP AND—OH,
NEVERMIND!

ZOOOOM!

WHOA!

SCREEECH!



HOWWWLLLLL

WHAT WAS THAT?

OHMYGOODNESS.

AAAAAAAAAAAA--
AH AM SO
FRIGHTENED.

HEY!

OH, 'ELLO, MADMOISELLE, DO YOU
COME HERE OFTEN? Heh, heh...

HOLD IT, GUYS! I THINK
I SEE SOMETHING--

DROP!



--MAKE THAT SOMEONE.

ARE YOU THE ONE WHO TRAPPED US IN THIS CAVE?

YOU TRESPASS INTO OUR LAND AND YOU ACCUSE US OF WRONG-DOING?

UH, WELL... HE'S GOT A POINT.



WE'RE FREEDOM FIGHTERS. I'M PRINCESS SALLY ACORN. WITH ME IS SONIC, AND ANTOINE. WE COME IN PEACE.

HEY.

BONJOUR.



WOULD YOU BE OUR GUIDE OUT OF HERE?

THE PRINCESS, HUH? SURE, FOLLOW ME.

HOW CAN WE TRUST 'IM?

YEAH, ANT'S RIGHT... YOU SURE WE CAN TRUST THIS GUY?

NO-- BUT WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE?



THE
EXIT IS JUST
AROUND--



--HERE!

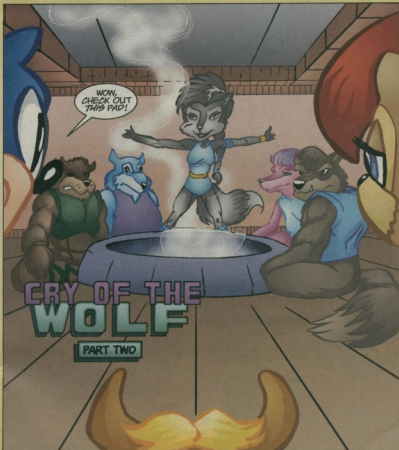
Whoaaaa!



I TOLD YOU
HE COULD NO' BE
TRUSTED!

TRUSTED!

End of
Part One



GREETINGS, PRINCESS...
I AM LUPE' AND
THESE ARE THE
WOLFPACK FREEDOM
FIGHTERS.



FREEDOM FIGHTERS?



LATER...



WE HEARD ROBOTNIK WAS
EXPERIMENTING WITH A NEW WEAPON
AROUND HERE. WE CAME TO INVESTIGATE
WHEN WE RAN INTO THE CAVES TO AVOID
DETECTION--THE REST YOU KNOW.

WE DIDN'T KNOW
THE WOLFPACK EVEN EXISTED
ANYMORE. HOW HAVE YOU KEPT IT
A SECRET ALL THIS TIME?

UNTIL YOU IDENTIFIED
YOURSELF AS THE PRINCESS, WE
THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN
SOME OF ROBOTNIK'S AUTOMATONS.
I KNEW YOU WERE STILL ALIVE.

THERE'S NOT
THAT MUCH TO KEEP
SECRET ANYMORE--

--EVERYTHING'S BEEN
WIPE OUT... TRACES OF
OUR CULTURE... THIS IS ALL
THAT REMAINS,



NICOLE,
UPDATE FILE ON THE
WOLFPACK.

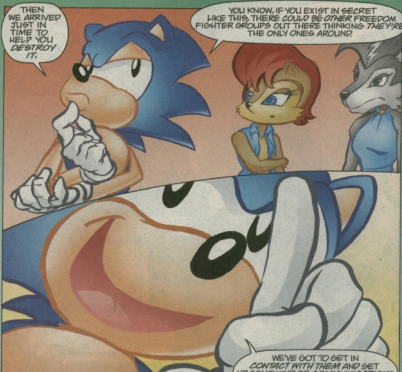
"WE WERE A PEACEFUL PEOPLE,
KEEPING TO OURSELVES..."

"...UNTIL THE COMING
OF ROBOTNIK!"

"HE DESTROYED OUR HOMES
AND CAPTURED OUR PEOPLE
FOR ROBOTICIZATION. I
LED A REMNANT OF THE PACK
OUT AND WE ESCAPED... BUT
NOT WITHOUT OUR SCARS,
SOME DEEPER THAN SKIN."

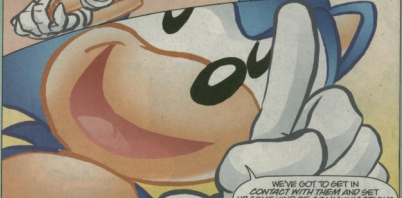
WE KEEP HITTING
HIS FACTORIES AND POWER
STATIONS, SO WE'VE BECOME
QUITE A THORN IN ROBOTNIK'S
SIDE. HE WANTS US OUT.

THIS NEW WEAPON OF ROBOTNIK'S
THAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR IS BEING
TESTED ON US. WE'VE TEMPORARILY DISABLED
IT BUT IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE IT'S
UP AND RUNNING AGAIN.



THEN
WE ARRIVED
JUST IN
TIME TO
HELP YOU
DESTROY
IT.

YOU KNOW, IF YOU EXIST IN SECRET
LIKE THIS, THERE COULD BE OTHER FREEDOM
FIGHTER GROUPS OUT THERE THINKING THEY'RE
THE ONLY ONES AROUND.



WE'VE GOT TO GET IN
CONTACT WITH THEM AND SET
UP SOME KIND OF COMMUNICATIONS
NETWORK TO FIGHT ROBOTNIK...
I JUST DON'T KNOW HOW.



PERHAPS WE COULD HELP.
AS I SAID, WE HIT SOME OF
ROBOTNIK'S FACTORIES, BUT NOT
WITHOUT TAKING SOME
SOUVENIRS EVERY TIME.
WILL THIS SUFFICE?



WHOA, THIS IS SOME MONDO COLLECTION YOU WOLVES GOT. WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO USE SOME OF THIS EQUIPMENT TO CONTACT OTHER FF'ERS. NOW, FOR THIS D.R.R. WEAPON PROBLEM WE'VE GOT, DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING THAT FIRES, TOO?

I HAVE SOMETHING, BUT WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO ACTIVATE IT.

NO PROB. WE'LL JUST HOOK UP TO NICOLE AND SHE'LL FIGURE IT OUT. LET'S

GO!



M EANWHILE, IN A LITTLE
SHIP OUTSIDE...



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, IT
WILL TAKE THAT LONG
FOR REPAIRS--



SNIVELY!

>GASP<
UH, GOOD MORNING,
SIR. HOW WAS YOUR
BREAKFAST?



NEVER MIND THAT.
HOW LONG BEFORE THE
EXPERIMENTAL HOVERCRAFT
IS FULLY OPERATIONAL?

Uhhmm...ANY
MINUTE NOW, SIR?
>GULP<

WHAT ABOUT
THE WOLVES?

AHH, WOLVES,
WELL, UH, SIR ...THEY,
UH, DISAPPEARED.





NO, SNIVELY,
THEY JUST OUTSMARTED
YOU! NOW I SUGGEST YOU
TAKE THAT POINTY NOSE
OF YOURS TO SNIFF OUT
OUR ENEMIES!



YES, SIR!
WHEN?



THAT NIGHT...

ROBOTNIK'S CRONIES ARE SOMEWHERE
AROUND HERE SO BE CAREFUL. NOW, WE'VE
GOT TO FIND HIGHER GROUND FOR OUR CANNON.
LET'S HOPE YOUR NICOLE FOUND THE RIGHT
ACTIVATION SEQUENCE.





"--NOW, WHILE IT'S BUSY TRYING TO SEARCH FOR US, WE'LL SET UP THE CANNON AND WAIT FOR ROBOTNIK'S NEW TOY TO SHOW UP AND..."



**KRA
BOOM!**

ZAT!

FIRE!



ALL RIGHT,
IT WORKED!

YAY!

End of
Part Two
9



CRY OF THE WOLF

PART THREE

OH NO,
LOOK!

THE CANNON DIDN'T
EVEN MAKE A DENT
ON THAT THING!

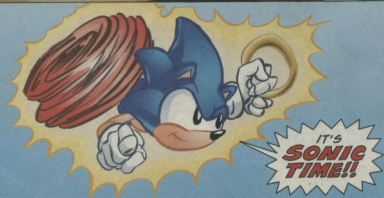
WHAT ARE
WE GOING TO DO
NOW?

RUN!

ZAT!

ZAT!

ZAT!

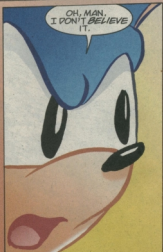


ZOOOM

STOP THAT HEDGEHOG! GET THE
EXPERIMENTAL HOVERCRAFT OUT OF
THAT HOG-MADE TWISTER!

IT WILL NOT RESPOND--

OH, NO! IT'S
HEADED OUR WAY!
QUICK--EVASIVE
MANEUVERS! TOO
LATE!!!





IT'S FLOATING
BACK UP!

I DON'T KNOW
HOW, YET, BUT WE
WILL STOP IT!



DAMAGE
REPORT!

ALL-SYSTEMS-80%-
OPERATIONAL.



ALL RIGHT, YOU
FREEDOM FIGHTERS,
COME OUT AND SHOW
YOURSELVES!



WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
IT'S THE HEDGEHOG...
AND THE PRINCESS!



FREEZE!
YOU ARE NOW
PRISONERS OF
ROBOTNIK!





"SONIC, YOU HAVE TO
LURE THE WEAPON INTO
A LIGHTENING FIELD.
IT'S TWO MILES NORTH
FROM HERE!"

C'MON, YOU
STUPID HUNK OF
FLYING METAL.
DON'T LOSE TRACK
OF ME NOW.



"BECAUSE OF THE
TYPE OF POWER
BASE IT HAS--"

ZAT!



FOLLOW
ME!

ZAT!



"--THE WEAPON SHOULD ACT AS
AN ELECTRICAL CONDUCTOR--"

LIGHTNING, DO
YOUR THING!

"--OVERLOADING
ITS CIRCUITS--"



"--AND PUTTING AN END TO IT ONCE AND FOR ALL!"



BOOOOM!



VICTORY!!!



GOOD NEWS, GUYS, WE RECEIVED WORD FROM OTHER HIDDEN FREEDOM FIGHTERS GROUPS. THEIR LEADERS WANT TO MEET WITH THE PRINCESS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



The End

THIS JUST IN!

What up, my peeps? Jg here!

Last month, I was talking about Attack of the Clones. I don't know if I liked it or hated it, but I thought it was as good as A New Hope. However, none of the Star Wars movies can beat Empire Strikes Back...yet! Maybe Episode III will, but we won't know for another three years. So on that note, the discussion continues...

INFLUENCES, Episode II

I was discussing how Star Wars got me into Sci Fi, which then led me into comics... a path I continue to tread to this very day. Nothing illustrates that more than with the very book you hold in your hands right now. A lot of the Sonic crew members are big fans, the biggest being Spaz, Josh Ray and former Knuckles artist, Manny Galan. In fact, if you're really into looking at art, check out some of the many hidden things in the backgrounds of some of your favorite issues by Spaz and especially Manny. You'll see ships, weapons, etc. In fact, in one of the issues of Knuckles (#25, I think), Manny drew Boba Fett's helmet as a building in the background. It's all good. It's our homage to the modern fairy tale. I, too, am shameless. It was I who told Patrick to use the Episode II movie poster as an inspiration for next issue's cover, telling him what Sonic characters would be placed where. Both Spaz and Josh loved the assignment... and after seeing the final piece, it brought tears to my eyes. Anyway, enough of the dramatics... next month, I'll talk about how Star Wars influenced me to take the direction I did with this book when I first became the editor.

"May The Force Be With You!"

JG

Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited. Thanks for understanding!

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